

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF 2008 TEACHER WORKING CONDITIONS SURVEY

Encourages NC Educators To Log On, Share Feedback And Improve Schools

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley announced today that the 2008 Teacher Working Conditions Survey is available for educators to complete at www.ncteachingconditions.org. The survey, which is available online today through April 21, 2008, gathers feedback from the state's teaching professionals to help shape state education policy, strengthen classroom working conditions and enhance the learning environment for students.

"When teachers in North Carolina speak, we listen," said Easley. "Since 2002 when the first survey was administered, we have used their feedback to shape statewide education policies and improve schools across the state. With more than 20 other states now adopting this initiative, North Carolina is leading the nation in education innovation."

Survey questions focus on time, facilities and resources, school leadership, professional development and teacher empowerment. A record 75,600 educators from more than 1,985 schools participated in the voluntary 2006 Teacher Working Conditions Survey. This year's survey has been expanded to include questions just for principals, developed by administrators and key education groups from across the state, to help them better look at school administration concerns.

In 2002 North Carolina became the first state in the nation to implement a teacher working conditions survey. In 2007, the national magazine *Education Week* adopted the survey as an indicator of teacher quality on state education report cards.

Parents, teachers and community members can log on to www.ncteachingconditions.org to track the response rates of schools across the state. To encourage participation, members from the North Carolina Business Committee for Education and local businesses will sponsor weekly and grand prize drawings for faculty in schools that reach 100 percent response rates. Final survey results will be posted on the web site after May 15, 2008.

A toll-free help desk has been established to provide assistance to those taking the survey. The help desk will be open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. during the administration of the survey and can be reached at 877-NCTWC08 or 877-628-9208.

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